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SANITARY LEGISLATION.

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Beriberi—Forbidding Use of Polished Rice in Government Institutions (Executive Order No. 24, Promulgated Apr. 26, 1912).

Executive Order No. 37, series of 1910, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"In view of the fact that the director of health has reported to the undersigned that for some years past considerable evidence has become available that beriberi is associated with the continuous consumption of white (polished) rice as a staple article of diet, and that at the recent meeting of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine, which was held in Hongkong during January, 1912, this view has received further and more complete confirmation by investigators in Japan, China, French Indo-China, Siam, Netherlands India, the Straits Settlements, and the Federated Malay States, and, in view of the further fact that the incidence of beriberi has been markedly reduced in Philippine Government institutions where unpolished rice has been used exclusively, the use of polished rice in all public institutions, or by any employee or person who is furnished rice by the Government, is hereby forbidden.

"All insular, provincial, and municipal officials having control of public institutions, such as workshops, prisons, vessels, and so forth, and all employees and persons in charge of field parties, and so forth, to whom rice is furnished by the Government, are hereby directed to see that the provisions of this executive order are complied with in the institutions and by employees under their control.

"Any rice which contains less than four-tenths of 1 per cent of phosphorus pentoxide shall be regarded as polished rice.

"Whenever it is impossible to obtain unpolished rice, polished rice may be used, provided that an equal amount of mangoes is used instead of rice on alternate days. In such case, the official responsible for issuing the rice must satisfy himself that the mangoes are actually used instead of rice.

"Whenever in exceptional cases it is impossible to obtain unpolished rice or mangoes polished rice may be used. In such cases, provided that tiki tiki or an extract therefrom can be obtained, it shall be given with such rice under the directions of a physician. In any case where polished rice is used a report thereof shall be made immediately to the director of health, giving reasons therefor and the circumstances under which it was used."

Infant Mortality—Creating a Committee to Investigate (Act No. 2116, Enacted Feb. 1, 1912.)

SECTION 1. A committee of three members, to be appointed by the Governor General with the advice and consent of the Philippine Commission, is hereby created for the purpose of investigating the causes of the excessive infant mortality in the Philippine Islands and the methods which should be adopted to decrease it. The committee